

MTV Revisted after...

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a trek across America to tackle a series of adventures -- a theme that recurs in a number of network reality shows this fall.

MTV also introduced a kind of overt, envelope-pushing sexuality that has crept over to network television. From the verbal innuendos of comedies like "Friends" and "Will & Grace," to the raw language and nudity on Steven Bochco's "NYPD Blue," broadcast series have tried to push the boundaries as far as the censors will allow.

Through the years, MTV's hip sexuality could be found in everything from the videos it played to the programming and innovations it introduced -- including its "Spring Break" coverage (which debuted in 1986); the MTV Beach House (first unveiled in 1993 as the summer-long backdrop for many of MTV's regular programs); "Singled Out," the raunchy relationship game show (launched in June 1995), co-hosted by the voluptuous Jenny McCarthy, who was red-hot for at least 15 minutes; and "Loveline," a late-night show featuring straight talk and advice about love and sex.

MTV also ushered in a new kind of ruder,

cruder animation.

Though not in the same league with Fox's classic "The Simpsons" -- which remains one of television's most revolutionary and subversive prime-time cartoons -- "Beavis and Butt-head," a spinoff of MTV's first animated series, "Liquid Television," became a national sensation when introduced as a series in March 1993. It paved the way for even more outrageous cartoons like Comedy Central's "South Park."

And, like so many other controversial MTV offerings through the years, "Beavis and Butt-head" touched off a long debate on where America was headed.

MTV TIMELINE

Aug. 1, 1981: MTV launches at 12:01 a.m., with an announcer's words: "Ladies and Gentlemen . . . rock-and-roll." The first video shown: the Buggles' "Video Killed the Radio Star."

March 1, 1982: The famed "I Want My MTV" advertising campaign debuts with Pete Townshend, Stevie Nicks, Mick Jagger, Adam Ant, Pat Benatar, the Police, and David Bowie.

Sept. 14, 1984: Launch of the MTV Video Music Awards. Over the years, it becomes a place to expect outrageous fashion and celebrity behavior.

March 21, 1986: MTV's first live on-location coverage of Spring Break, from Daytona Beach, Fla.

Dec. 7, 1987: Debut of MTV's first game show, "Remote Control."

Feb. 12, 1988: Former Rolling Stone editor Kurt Loder becomes "MTV News" anchor.

Aug. 6, 1988: Debut of "YO! MTV Raps!," the channel's first show devoted to rap music.

June 2, 1989: Debut of "House of Style," a quarterly series on fashion, with model Cindy Crawford as host.

Jan. 21, 1990: Debut of "MTV Unplugged," an acoustic music series.

June 4, 1990: Debut of "Totally Pauly," a comedy-based video show with comedian Pauly Shore.

June 2, 1991: Debut of MTV's first animated series, "Liquid Television."

Feb. 3, 1992: MTV kicks off its "Choose or Lose" 1992 election coverage, aiming to engage young people in politics by demystifying the political process and encouraging them to vote. MTV News reporter Tabitha Soren becomes its primary political correspondent.

May 21, 1992: Premiere of "The Real World," a reality-based soap opera that follows seven young adults living together in a New York loft for three months.

June 10, 1992: MTV debuts the MTV Movie Awards as an alternative to the tradi-

SOLUTION TO PUZZLE FROM PAGE A-11

E	N	S	F	A	C	E	M	A	C	E
A	Y	E	A	D	A	Y	I	B	I	D
S	E	A	P	L	A	N	E	A	S	E
E	T	T	A	S	A	D	A	M		
			C	E	E		B	I	C	E
D	I	K	E	A	L	E	C	A	R	E
O	D	E	S	C	E	O	A	D	A	R
C	E	L	K	H	A	N	R	S	T	U
K	A	P	P	A	S	A	C			
			A	T	E	E	M	E	C	C
O	D	I	C	S	C	H	E	D	U	L
A	I	N	T	M	O	A	N	B	A	R
F	A	D	S	E	N	I	D	A	D	O

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BRIDGE: Visualize what you cannot see

JULIAN LADERMAN

Chess and bridge are often grouped together since both games require intelligence and high skill levels. Other than that, there are more differences than similarities:

1. Chess involves playing as an individual. No communication skills are required. Bridge involves bidding and signaling during card play.
2. Chess does not involve any luck except to ascertain who gets the White pieces and has the privilege of making the first move. No chance factor such as dice or cards as in bridge.
3. A chess tournament involves competing in several large battles. An average tournament game lasts 3 or 4 hours. A bridge tournament involves a large number of small battles. The average hand is completed in 5 to 10 minutes.
4. Chess is a game of perfect information. Chess players need to envision future positions on the chessboard; the present location of the pieces is known. Bridge players do not know the present location of all the cards. They have to visualize alternative holdings in their opponents' hands and even in their partner's hand in order to make proper decisions at the bridge table.

On the illustrated hand, declarer must lose two tricks to the ace of diamonds and the ace of hearts. Therefore, the success of the contract depends on holding the number of trump losers to one trick. The standard way to accomplish this had there been no bidding by the opponents, would be to enter dummy and take a spade finesse. This line of play will lose only one trick whenever East holds in spades either king-doubleton or king-tripleton. The combined chance of this occurring is 34%.

On this particular hand there is no chance that East will have either of these holdings. North and South have a total of 27 high card points. West opened the bidding, so West must have the spade king. Therefore,

NORTH	
♠ 64	
K Q J	
K Q J 8	
♣ A 7 6 4	
WEST	
K 9	
A 10 9 6 2	
♦ A 5 2	
♣ J 10 5	
EAST	
♠ J 10 8	
8 7 4	
10 7 4 3	
♣ 9 8 3	
SOUTH	
♠ A Q 7 5 3 2	
5 3	
9 6	
♣ K Q 2	

DEALER : WEST
BOTH SIDES VULNERABLE

West	North	East	South
1H	1NT*	Pass	4S
Pass	Pass	Pass	

* 16-18hcp
Opening lead: club Jack

declarer should not take the spade finesse and waste the spade queen. The sacrifice of the queen is certain. It would be the bloodiest death of a queen since the beheading of Marie-Antoinette. Declarer must try to visualize a spade distribution where there is only one trump loser. The only holding is if West started with king-doubleton of spades. Considering West's opening bid which indicates the possession of at least 5 hearts, both red aces, and the spade king, the chance of this spade holding in West is a surprising high 43%. Declarer could play the ace of trump followed by the 2 of trump and enjoy the pleasant sight of the spade king falling reluctantly out of the West hand on the second spade trick. Then the queen of spades will be able to win the third round of spades and the contract will be successful.

Declarer might have had a false sense of success if the king of spades had fallen under his ace. This initial joy occurs since the queen of trump would be able to win a trick. Unfortunately, the king falling would have indicated a singleton and therefore declarer would soon painfully realize that East started with J 10 9 8 of spades and there are still two trump losers.

Considering the necessity of West holding king-doubleton, declarer could have just as well played a small trump from his hand and when regaining the lead play the ace and queen. It would have been equally effective.

The correct line of play can only be found by counting the total high card points in the North and South hands and visualizing the necessary enemy spade holding in order for the contract to succeed. This is an example of the type of visualization that is needed by bridge players but not by chess players.

Since there are many major differences between chess and bridge, the two games require somewhat different skills and abilities. Being talented at one game does not guarantee success at the other or even interest in the other. Chess has a long history of extraordinary child prodigies. One must marvel at a 14 year old Bobby Fischer winning the U.S. chess championship in 1958. The bridge world has never seen any teenager achieve that level of ability. In general top chess players reach their peak performance level at a much younger age than bridge players. Possibly young people have a finer capacity to visualize the future than the present and older individuals can focus on the present better than the future. Probably the biggest reason is that bridge ability requires a greater amount of experience and interactive social skills. It seems that people who enjoy competitive games should play chess when they are young and switch over to bridge as grey starts to appear in their hair.